

**The Connecticut EMS Advisory Board  
Emergency Preparedness Committee  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 10, 2016  
New Britain EMS**

**Present:** William Ackley – Committee Chair, Judi Reynolds – DPH/OEMS, Michele Connelly – DPH/OEMS, Chris Stone – CSEMS-I, Mark Franzese – Campion, Alex Morisano – NBEMS, Jonathan Best – DPH/OPHPR, Damian Rickard – American Ambulance, Robert Zeigler – ERM, Carmine Centrella - CREST

**Go To Meeting:** Shea Gregg MD – Trauma Committee, Jonathan Lillpopp – DPH/OEMS, Richard Kamin MD – DPH/OEMS

**1.0 Call to order**

Chair Bill Ackley called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM at New Britain EMS Headquarters. Introductions were done and persons calling in were acknowledged.

**2.0 Approval of February 4, 2016 minutes**

The minutes of February 4, 2016 were distributed and reviewed. Jon Best asked that an amendment be made to 3.0, 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet, change “contracts” to “mutual aid agreements”. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Jonathan Best, seconded by Mark **Franzese**. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**3.0 Initiatives for discussion/EMS Preparedness**

- **Update/Dr. Kamin**

Dr. Kamin reported the Statewide Unified EMS Guidelines are in the final stages of review and will possibly be rolled out by July 2016.

Dr. Kamin gave an overview of the Active Assailant Awareness program that is being held this evening at Manchester Community College, coordinated with the assistance of Greg Priest.

- **Active Assailant**

Discussion on the EMS Preparedness Committee draft document “Connecticut Community Planning and Response to Active Assailant & Hybrid Targeted Violence Incidents” followed. Dr. Kamin asked if the document was ready to share. Bill Ackley noted changes were made to the document as discussed at the previous meeting, “levels” were removed and replaced with “capabilities” and other changes to language agreed upon were incorporated. Bill will resend the document for one more review and if no issues are found it will be sent to CEMSAB. Dr. Shea Gregg has the document on the CEMSAB agenda; he has reviewed it and overall only has found a few small items.

Bill Ackley commented that the guidance in the document is designed to flow into MCI procedures already in use. Dr. Kamin asked what Jonathan Best’s opinion was, Jon stated he has reviewed the document and feels it works well. Bill Ackley has also shared the document with his local police chief for input.

Chris Stone suggested removing references to ICS 100, 200 and 300, and replacing it with language that includes all required ICS and NIMS.

- **Update from Preparedness**

Jonathan Best spoke about the following:

- There have been staff changes at OPHPR; Scott Szalkiewicz has transferred to another office. Francesca Provenzano, Epidemiologist 4, will be assuming his duties. William Gerrish, Health Program Associate, will be working with the hospitals.
- Jon gave an overview of the Statewide Full Scale Mass Dispensing Exercise to be held April 11<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup> and the Governor's Statewide Emergency Preparedness Planning Exercise (EPPI) to be held October 13<sup>th</sup> through October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Jon spoke about the Mass Fatality Regional Exercise that will be taking place October 24<sup>th</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup> that will have participants from New York, New Jersey and Federal agencies. He commented on the planning process and noted this is the first time one is held in Connecticut. Jon explained the components of the system and how victims are moved through the process. The exercise presents a unique opportunity for providers to observe and learn. The exercise will be held over a 4 day period with a different focus each day but the mortuary operations will be open every day of the exercise.
- Jon Best spoke about the EMS Management program that he has been developing which will be an enhancement to SMART triage.

- **Trailer Sub-committee report**

- There was discussion on the MCI trailers concerning the process to deploy them, with the suggestion they be deployed automatically to certain types of calls. Jon Best noted the incident commander needs to determine the need and call for the trailer, they cannot be deployed without a verified need. To have them activated automatically would create a burden on the host services. Discussion followed on the lack of knowledge of what equipment is available on them and each trailer differing in how they are set up.

Lengthy discussion followed on the role of the trailers, declarations and management of MCI's and EMS agencies abilities to handle large-scale incidents.

Bob Zeigler suggested having one of the MCI trailers at the EXPO so attendees can become more familiar with them. Jon Best said he will follow up. He feels the trailers are not being used to their full potential and having them at the EXPO and other functions would be increase awareness of the assets. Jon spoke about the costs and manpower involved with maintenance and repairs to the trailers and current budget constraints. Security of the trailers and equipment accountability were also discussed. He spoke about having qualified drivers for the trailers. OPHPR will have a larger booth at the EXPO this year, he will see if the trailer can be located nearby.

- **Other**

- Jon Best spoke about active shooter for EMS program that is taught in New York. He will obtain more information for the group.
- Chris Stone spoke about the SIM lab at Hartford Hospital conducting a monthly active assailant drill under a grant and their desire to include fire and EMS.
- Dr. Shea Gregg reported Bridgeport Hospital will also be conducting an active assailant drill, there is no definite date at this time.
- Bill Ackley reported the Regional 1 Emergency Preparedness Team has formed a steering committee that will be conducting a number of training exercises, tabletops and symposiums working toward a full-scale exercise. The initial meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup> and will include representation from all disciplines. They are reaching out to subject matter experts and are working with a third party consultant. The initial meeting will be by invitation only.
- Bill Ackley spoke about the Special Ops Committee for Region 1 purchasing mass trauma packs that he brought o the last meeting for the group. A training power point has been developed for the packs as an introduction. They will be on auto dispatch through CMED and deployed through 7 communities that have 24/7 capabilities. 6 of the packs will be at EMS agencies, the 7<sup>th</sup> will be at Fairfield Fire. They also

had to fit a specific risk category. Services hosting will have MOU's to deploy as requested and supplies in the packs will not be utilized for other purposes. The packs will be rotated yearly for inventory validation and updating. There is an 8<sup>th</sup> pack for training purposes. Each pack will have 40 tourniquets, 20 triage dressings, 20 chest seals, 200 pairs of gloves, mylar blankets and 2 fox trot litters.

- Bill Ackley reported Region 1 is working on a regional MCI plan.

#### **4.0 Events/Exercises**

- **R1EPT Initiative –**
- **Report from Boston Presentation – When Terror Strikes, Maximizing Survival**  
Bill Ackley reported that a group attended the presentation, which was a one day symposium sponsored by Boston EMS, Boston Health and the Hospital Corp of Boston on the Paris attacks. The speakers were the Executive Director and a line officer from SAMU- Paris EMS provider, a medical director from one of the Paris Hospitals that received patients during the attacks, the medical director from the Paris Fire Brigade. The presentations were excellent. Bill reviewed the presentations and the lessons learned. Everyone who attended felt it was very beneficial. Bill spoke about having them possibly come to Connecticut. Bill noted the day ended with a psychiatrist who spoke on not only the responders mental health but also the reaction of the victims at the time of the event and after.
- **Active Assailant Awareness – Manchester Community College – March 10, 2016**
- **Disaster Response to Pediatrics – <https://www.teex439ct2016.ticketleap.com/>**  
New Britain EMSA – April 12-13, 2016  
Trumbull Agri-Science – April 14-15, 2016  
Registration is required and there is a 30-student requirement to hold the course, please share with agencies and your boards of education.
- **NY/NJ/CT Interstate EMS Task Force Quarterly Meeting – Stamford – June 16, 2016 – 11:00 to 13:30**
- **CT Trauma Conference – Foxwoods – March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>**
- **CT EMS EXPO – Mohegan Sun – June 1<sup>st</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016**
- Carmine Centrella spoke about a planned 3-day course on “Unified Response to Active Shooter” that is being planned by Capitol Region. Dates are still to be determined.

#### **5.0 Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Judi Reynolds

OEMS Region 2 Coordinator